

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
INDIANA STATE FAIR ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

October, 2008

INDIANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2008

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INDIANA STATE FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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**Susan Montgomery
Attorney for the Committee**

**Bernadette Bartlett
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee**

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

In IC 15-13-6-4, the Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation directing the Committee to:

- (1) Serve as a liaison between the:
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn;
 - (C) board; and
 - (D) general assembly.
- (2) Review policies affecting the activities of the:
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) barn;
 - (C) state fair;
 - (D) facilities at the fairgrounds; and
 - (E) property owned by the commission.
- (3) Provide long range guidance for the:
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn; and
 - (C) board.
- (4) Review annually the:
 - (A) commission's;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn's; and
 - (C) board's;

budgets and other accounts and report financial conditions to the legislative council. A report under this subdivision to the legislative council must be in electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
- (5) Further advise the budget committee regarding appropriations and other financial matters concerning the:
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn; and
 - (C) board.
- (6) Propose, review, and make recommendations concerning legislation affecting the:
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) barn; and
 - (C) board.

The Legislative Council did not assign any topics of study to the Committee in 2008.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Committee met two times during the 2008 interim. Meetings were held on:

- (1) August 27, 2008
- (2) October 9, 2008

All meetings were held in the Board Room of the Administration Building, Indiana State Fairgrounds, 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

III. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Activities at the State Fairgrounds. Cynthia C. Hoye, Executive Director of the Indiana State Fair, provided reports to the Committee on: (1) the 2008 Indiana State Fair; (2) and activities at the Indiana State Fairgrounds during the 2007-2008 year. Director Hoye believed, without final figures in place, that the 2008 Fair may have been the most financially healthy Fair. While the economy has been faltering, there still are well-attended exhibitions, trade shows, and political rallies that use the Fairgrounds as a venue for their activities.

Plans for Future Fairs and the Fairgrounds. Director Hoye reported on: (1) anticipated funding for the Fair from Fair profit and from current and anticipated appropriations from the General Assembly; (2) dates for the 2009 Fair and themes and proposed entertainment for the next and future fairs; and (3) capital improvements to the Fairgrounds. The 2009 Fair will be held on more weekends, which hopefully will lead to greater attendance and less conflict with school calendars. Director Hoye described the improvements to Exposition Hall and the 4-H dormitories and Discovery Hall in the 4-H complex and spoke about the newly constructed covered bridge on the grounds.

Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage (CASH). Justin Armstrong, CASH Director reported on the educational activities of the CASH. He also informed the Committee that the Normandy Barn was moved from its location on 38th Street to the north side of the Fairgrounds.

IV. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Resolution for the 2009 Session Concerning the Beginning and Ending Dates for Certain Schools. The Committee voted to approve a resolution urging the establishment of an interim study committee to study the beginning and ending dates of the school year for certain schools in the state. The interim committee also would be charged to study whether students attending certain schools should receive a lawful excuse from attendance at school when the student participated in activities or exhibited at the Indiana State Fair, and child labor laws related to these two issues.

The Committee is not required to issue a final report. For further details of the Committee's proceedings, the minutes of the meetings of the Committee can be accessed at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/interim/committee/sfac.html>